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| AFRICA RISING - Enhancing partnership among Africa RISING, NAFAKA and TUBORESHE CHAKULA Programs for fast tracking delivery and scaling of agricultural technologies in Tanzania Quarterly Report  Quarter – 01 October – 31 December, 2016 |



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Contents

[I. Activity Overview/Summary 3](#_Toc472541424)

[1.1 Executive summary 3](#_Toc472541425)

[1.2 Summary of results to date 5](#_Toc472541426)

[2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS 7](#_Toc472541427)

[2.1 Progress narrative 7](#_Toc472541428)

[2.2 Implementation status and planned activities 9](#_Toc472541429)

[2.2.1 Joint planning, agro-input procurement, and distribution 9](#_Toc472541430)

[2.2.2 Meetings and training activities for extension staff and lead farmers 11](#_Toc472541431)

[2.2.3 Training activities for farmers 13](#_Toc472541432)

[2.2.4 Establishment of demonstration sites 14](#_Toc472541433)

[2.2.5 Launching of the ‘Mwanga’ platform as an ICT vehicle for scaling in Babati District 14](#_Toc472541434)

[2.2.6 Problems and challenges 15](#_Toc472541435)

[2.2.7 Planned activities 16](#_Toc472541436)

[3. INTEGRATION OF CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES and USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES 16](#_Toc472541437)

[3.1 Gender equality and women’s empowerment 16](#_Toc472541438)

[3.2 Youth engagement 16](#_Toc472541439)

[3.3 Local capacity development 17](#_Toc472541440)

[3.4 Integration and collaboration 17](#_Toc472541441)

[3.5 Sustainability 17](#_Toc472541442)

[3.6 Environmental compliance 17](#_Toc472541443)

[3.7 Global climate change 18](#_Toc472541444)

[3.8 Policy and governance support 18](#_Toc472541445)

[3.9 Private Sector engagement, Public Private Partnerships (PPP), and Global Development Alliance (GDA) collaboration 18](#_Toc472541446)

[3.10 Science, technology, and innovation 18](#_Toc472541447)

[4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT 19](#_Toc472541448)

[5. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES 19](#_Toc472541449)

[6. MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING 19](#_Toc472541450)

[7. SPECIAL EVENTS FOR NEXT QUARTER 19](#_Toc472541451)

[8. ANNEXES 20](#_Toc472541452)

[8.1 1: Performance against PMP indicators for project year III (2016/2017) 20](#_Toc472541453)

[8.2 1I: Success story 23](#_Toc472541454)

**Cover photo**

Feedback meeting with farmers and local leaders in Mvomero District. Photo credit: Japhet Masigo/IITA.

# Activity Overview/Summary

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| --- | --- |
| **Activity Name:** | AFRICA RISING- Enhancing partnership among Africa RISING, NAFAKA, and TUBORESHE CHAKULA Programs for fast tracking delivery and scaling of agricultural technologies in Tanzania |
| **Activity Start Date:** | 1 October, 2014 |
| **Activity End Date:** | 30 September, 2017 |
| **Name of Prime Implementing Partner:** | International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) |
| **Contract/Agreement Number:** | BFS-G-11-00002 |
| **Name of Subcontractors/Sub awardees:** | Agricultural Research Institute, Dakawa/Chollima  International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)  World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) |
| **Major Counterpart Organizations** | International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)  World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF)  Agricultural Research Institute, Hombolo  Agricultural Research Institute, Selian  Kilombero Agricultural Research and Training Institute (KATRIN)  Horticultural Research and Training Institute (HORTI)-Tengeru  District Agricultural Councils  Meru Agro-seed Company and Consultancy  Aminata Agro-seed company |
| **Geographic Coverage**  **(Districts, Regions, and/or Zanzibar)** | Babati and Kiteto Districts (Manyara Region)  Kongwa District (Dodoma Region)  Kilombero, Ifakara, Kilosa, and Mvomero Districts (Morogoro Region)  Iringa rural and Kilolo Districts (Iringa Region)  Mbarali and Mbeya Rural Districts (Mbeya Region)  Mbozi District (Songwe Region) |
| **Reporting Period:** | 1 October – 31 December 2016 |

## Executive summary

The Africa RISING-NAFAKA partnership project focuses on the delivery and scaling of promising interventions that enhance agricultural productivity in Tanzania. The key interventions include the introduction of improved crop varieties, dissemination of best-bet crop management packages, rehabilitation and protection of natural resources, and reduction of food waste and spoilage. The project focus is on three crop enterprises—maize, rice, and vegetables —with post-harvest handling and nutrition as a cross-cutting theme. Legumes are also promoted as a means of better natural resource management and nutrition. The key partners in the project are international agricultural research centers and one USAID-funded project under the Feed the Future (FtF) Initiative in Tanzania—CMSD/NAFAKA. These work in partnership with national agricultural research institutions as well as local government authorities, the private sector (seed companies, millers, and processors), and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to deliver on the strategic objective of increasing the productivity of key value chains in Tanzania. During the current quarter, project activities were implemented in eleven Districts in the Regions of Dodoma, Iringa, Manyara, Mbeya, Morogoro, and Songwe, all in the FtF’s Zone of Influence (ZoI).

Six key activities were implemented in the current quarter. (1) Planning meetings for the maize and rice components of the project as well as the annual planning meeting and launching of the Cereals Marketing Systems Development (CMSD/NAFAKA II) project were conducted in October and November 2016. These meetings provided an opportunity for the project team members to harmonize their activity plans for the quarter and the rest of the year. (2) Feedback meetings were held with stakeholders in the project districts with briefings for new project locations. As a result, the project plans to expand activities in 99 new villages (total 195) from 96 villages which were covered last year. Planning meetings were held with all the district and village agricultural extension staff where project activities will be implemented. (3) Demonstration sites were selected and training of 87 extension staff and 88 lead farmers was conducted in five Districts – Mbozi, Kilolo, Babati, Kongwa, and Kiteto – where planting activities were expected by the end of the current quarter. (4), Procurement and distribution of agro-inputs for the production of quality declared seeds (QDS) for legumes and rice and demonstration activities for all activities were initiated. About 4.19 t of maize seeds, 22.35 t of fertilizer, and 5.85 t of rice seeds were distributed to all the project villages for the establishment of demonstration/learning sites (at least 160 mother demos and 1,153 baby demos). (5) The vegetables team conducted training activities on post-harvest management in Kilombero rural District and agronomic practices in Iringa rural District covering 1003 farmers (430M, 573F). Finally, we launched an ICT platform to enhance the scaling of project-related information. The main challenge encountered is a prolonged drought which has disrupted planting programs and subsequent project activities in various locations.

The key planned activities for the next quarter include (1) establishing demonstration and learning sites in all project districts; (2) training farmers, QDS producers, and extension staff; and (3) monitoring visits to project sites and data collection.

## Summary of results to date

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicators  *List all indicators per IR and indicate in brackets whether it is a standard or custom indicator. Indicator definitions should go in the annex.* | FY 2016-2017 Annual target | Q1  FY16/17 | Q2  FY16/17 | Q3  FY116/17 | Q4  FY16/17 | Achievements FY 16/17 | Percentage achieved FY17 (%) | LOP Target | LOP Achievements to date | LOP Percentage achieved (%) |
| EG.3-1: (4.5.2-13) Number of households benefiting directly from USG interventions (RAA) | 47,000 | 9,255 |  |  |  | 9,255 | 19.7% | 47,000 | 9,255 | 19.7% |
| EG.3.2-1: (4.5.2-7) Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) (WOG) | 47,200 | 2,526 |  |  |  | 2,526 | 5.4% | 47,200 | 13,212 | 28% |
| EG.3.2-4: (4.5.2-11) Number of for-profit private enterprises, producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG food security related organizational development assistance (RAA) (WOG) | 200 | 179 |  |  |  | 179 | 89.5% | 200 | 186 | 93% |
| \*EG.3.2-17: (4.5.2-5) Number of farmers and others who have applied improved technologies or management practices with USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 47,000 | 10,345 | 22.3% |
| \*EG.3.2-18: (4.5.2-2) Number of hectares of land under improved technologies or management practices with USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 58,000 | 12,952.96 | 22% |

\*These indicators are reported annually.

# ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

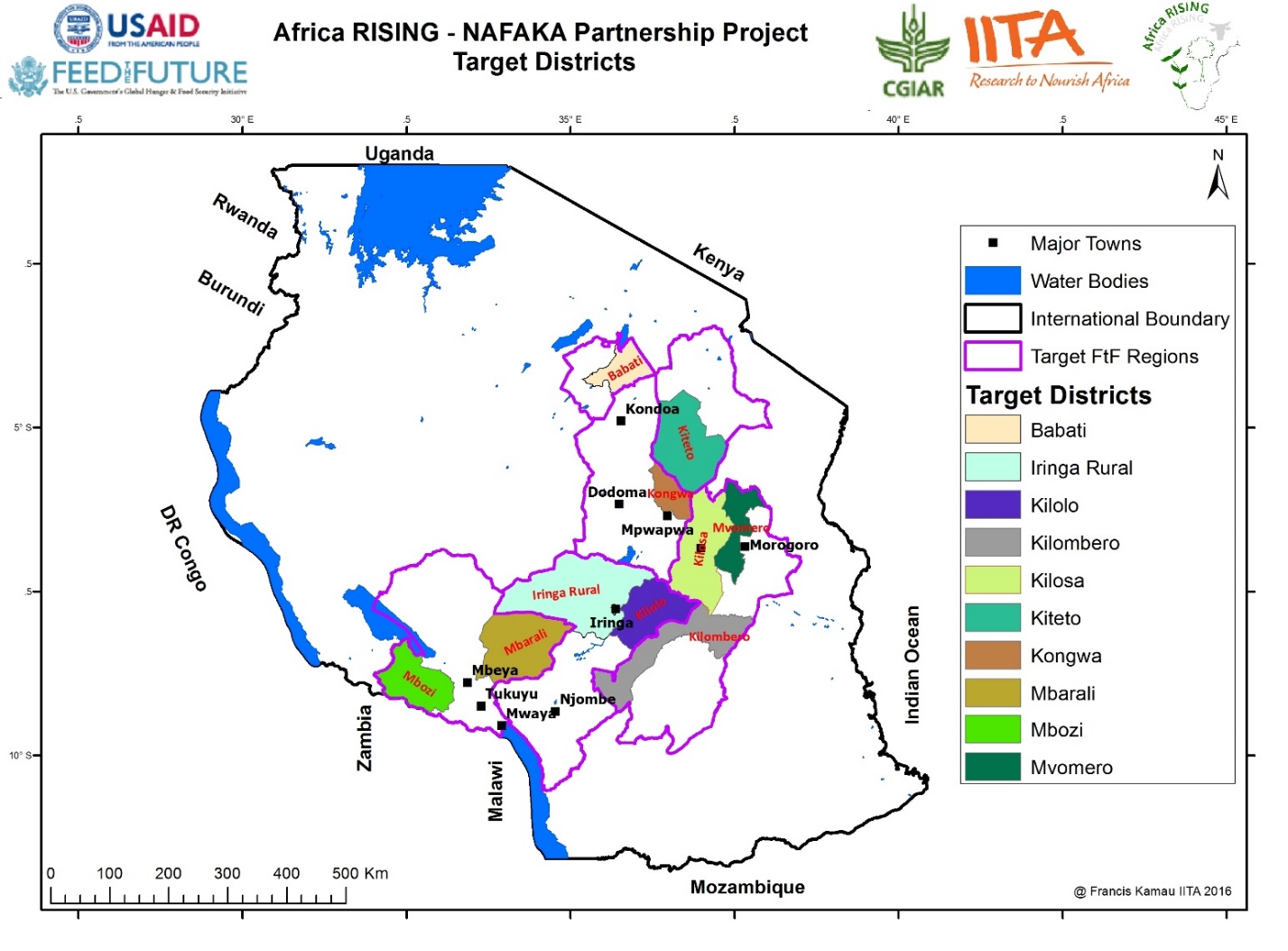
## Progress narrative

Africa RISING partners are involved in the delivery of information and technology packages through a network of CMSD/NAFAKA project sites and other public and private sector actors aimed at contributing to the FtF goal of harmonizing regional efforts to fight hunger and poverty in countries with chronic food insecurity and insufficient production of staple crops. Attractive interventions in this project include the introduction of improved crop varieties, dissemination of best-bet crop management packages, rehabilitation and protection of natural resources, and post-harvest management.

The project focus is on four crop enterprises – maize, legumes, rice, and vegetables – with post-harvest handling and nutrition as cross-cutting themes. The key partners in the project are international agricultural research centers (IITA, CIMMYT, CIAT, ICRAF, the World Vegetable Center, and one USAID-funded project, CMSD/NAFAKA. These work in partnership with national agricultural research institutions (ARIs) such as Dakawa (that leads the rice theme), Selian, HORTI-Tengeru and Kilombero. Local government institutions, specifically DAICOs, the private sector (seed companies, millers, and processors) and NGOs are also part of the project implementers to deliver on the following objectives:

1. Introduce and promote improved and resilient varieties of food crops to farm households in a manner that complements their on-going farm enterprises, contributes to sustainable agricultural resource management, and offers nutritional advantages and alternative market channels.
2. Disseminate best-bet agronomic management packages around the most promising new crop varieties suited to widely representative agro-ecological zones and market proximity.
3. Protect land and water resources and foster agricultural biodiversity through the introduction of soil and water management practices.
4. Increase food security and improve household nutrition among the most vulnerable households and their members, especially women and children, by introducing locally adapted and nutrient-rich vegetables.
5. Introduce and promote post-harvest management technologies for maize, rice, legumes, and selected vegetable crops to reduce losses and bring quality up to market standards.
6. Offer and expand capacity services to members of grassroots farmers’ associations, platform partners, and development institutions in the scaling process (capacity building), paying particular attention to the special opportunities available to women farmers as technical and nutritional innovators and resource managers.

The project is currently being implemented in six Regions of Tanzania, (Manyara, Dodoma, Morogoro, Iringa, Mbeya and Songwe) all in the FtF’s ZoI (Fig. 1).



**Figure 1:** Project locations

All project activities contribute to the intermediate result (IR) of ‘Inclusive broad-based economic growth sustained’. This is the last year of the project and we plan to realize the Life of Project (LoP) targets of having 58,000 ha under improved technologies, 47,000 households benefiting from the project intervention, 47,200 beneficiaries trained, and 200 organizations benefiting from project activities. This being the first quarter of the year, key planned activities included the following: (1) joint planning, agro-input procurement, and delivery in preparation for the planting season, (2) selection and training of district agricultural staff (village level) and lead farmers in preparation for implementation of project activities (3) planting in some locations where rains begin early, and (4) printing and distribution of technology descriptions, protocols, and training materials to be used in implementation of project activities. All the activities were successfully implemented. The only exception is with the vegetables component of the project for which some farmer training activities were planned in some locations. These have also been accomplished as planned, reaching 1,003 beneficiaries out of the targeted 2700 for the project year (for vegetables only).

## Implementation status and planned activities

## Joint planning, agro-input procurement, and distribution

The maize and rice teams conducted planning meetings in October 2016. These meetings brought together staff from NAFAKA and Africa RISING to jointly agree on what will be done to make the project a success. The Cereals Marketing Systems Development (CMSD)/NAFAKA II project was officially launched in November 2016 in Iringa and this provided an opportunity for further alignment of project activities. Joint activity plans were harmonized between Africa RISING and NAFAKA teams since they are partners to deliver on development interventions in most locations. Among the items discussed at all meetings was the operationalization of the climate-smart agricultural strategy that is part of the CMSD project and Africa RISING scientists would like to contribute to its implementation. The event to launch CMSD also provided an opportunity to get insights from other partners (some USAID-funded) – such as the East African Grain Council, Rice Council of Tanzania, Food Trade (FarmAfrica), SANKU fortification project, TechnoServe SAFE Project and MwanzoBora Nutrition Project – and find how their activities could be integrated in AR-NAFAKA project activities.

In addition, project teams visited the districts and villages to provide feedback to stakeholders (district staff, local leaders, private sector and farmers) in locations where the project was implemented last year and mobilization in proposed new locations. The activity was also meant to get feedback that would guide better implementation of activities in the current year from stakeholders. In all districts, it was agreed that project activities should be scaled up to additional villages as indicated in Table 1, since the previous year had been largely a success.

|  |
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| Photo 1.png |
| **Photo 1:** A section of farmers participating in a feedback and site selection session facilitated by the District agriculture staff of Babati District. Photo Credit: Luhenda Yangole/ARI Selian. |

**Table 1: Villages where AR-NAFAKA will operate in 2016/17 compared with 2015/2016.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **District** | **Villages covered by CMSD/NAFAKA** | **Villages to be covered by AR-NAFAKA 2016/2017 (largely selected from those of NAFAKA using GIS-generated recommendation domains)** | **Villages covered by the project in 2015/2016** |
| Mvomero | 50\* | 30 | 20 |
| Iringa rural | 56 | 32 | 13 |
| Kilolo | 60 | 27 | 10 |
| Kilombero | 61 | 24 (41)\*\* | 10 |
| Kiteto | 52 | 13 | 8 |
| Kongwa | 61 | 13 | 10 |
| Mbarali | 50 | 10 (40)\*\* | 6 |
| Mbozi | 71 | 23 | 6 |
| Babati | - | 13 | 8 |
| Kilosa | - | 10 | 5 |
| **TOTAL** | | **195** | **96** |

\*NAFAKA II has scaled down crop production activities from this district and trusts that the Africa RISING (AR)-NAFAKA project will eventually take charge of the activities.

\*\* Africa RISING Scientists will work in these additional villages (without demos and direct VAEO support) to provide technical backstopping and small packs for newly released Komboka and SATO rice seeds to village-based agricultural advisors that are part of the NAFAKA model in all intervention villages.

As part of the community mobilization `(in new villages) and feedback meetings lead farmers and demonstration sites were selected. In addition, technologies on which farmers would require further training and access to agro-inputs were identified. Table 2 shows the varieties of seeds and other agro-inputs that were procured for distribution to farmers per district. Through the rural agro-dealer network supported by CMSD/NAFAKA project and implemented by VBAAs farmers participating in this project had started purchasing agro-inputs in preparation for planting. NAFAKA collects information on sale amounts for each village.

**Table 2: Agro-input amounts (maize and rice) procured for establishment of demonstration and learning sites in each district.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **District** | **Maize seeds** | | | **Fertilizers** | | **Planned demonstration sites** | |
|  | *Amount (MT)* | *Varieties* | | *Amount (MT)* | *Types* | *Mother* | *Baby* |
| Mvomero | \* |  | | \* |  |  |  |
| Iringa rural | 0.14 | MERU HB 513 (0.025 t)  LUBANGO (0.03 t)  KH 500- 43A (0.027 t)  MAMS 913 (0.035 t)  TZH 538 (0.017 t) | | 0.15 t  0.65 t  0.40 t  0.15 t | Yara tobacco  Yara mila cereal  DAP  Nafaka Plus | 38 | 190 |
| Kilolo | \* |  | | \* |  |  |  |
| Kongwa and Kiteto | 1.60 | NATA H 104 (0.2 t)  NATA H 105 (0.3 t)  MERU HB 513 (0.3 t)  MERU HB 515 (0.3 t)  MERU IR 621 (0.5 t) | | \* |  | 26 | 390 |
| Mbozi | 0.25 | SC 719, KITALE 614, UH6303 and Lubango Hybrid | | 8 | Yara Mila cereal, DAP, Yara Bela Sulfan, UREA and Amidas | 30 | 200 |
| Babati | 2.20 | MERU HB 513 (1.1 t)  MERU HB 515 (1.1 t) | | 6.5 t  6.5 t | Nafaka Plus MinjinguTop dressing | 14 | 98 |
| Kilosa | \* |  | | \* |  |  |  |
| *Subtotal* | *4.19* |  | | *22.35* |  | *108* | *878* |
| **District** | **Rice seeds** | | | **Fertilizers** | | **Planned demonstration sites** | |
|  | *Amount (MT)* | | *Varieties* | *Amount (t)* | *Types* | *Mother* | *Baby* |
| Mvomero | \* | |  | \* |  | 11 | 275 |
| Iringa rural | 0.91 | | SARO5 (0.7 t)  Komboka (0.01 t)  SATO (0.2 t) | \* |  | 10 | 250 |
| Mbarali | 1.51 | | SARO5 (1.1 t)  Komboka (0.01t)  SATO (0.4 t) | \* |  | 10 | 250 |
| Kilombero and Ifakara | 3.43 | | SARO5 (3.15 t)  Komboka (0.28 t) | \* |  | 21 | 500 |
| *Subtotal* | *5.85* | |  |  |  | *52* | *1,275* |

\*Procurement not yet done for various reasons (e. g., rain delays, season not yet on)

## Meetings and training activities for extension staff and lead farmers

For sustainability and efficiency of project interventions, agricultural extension staff will be deeply engaged in project activities. To this end, planning meetings were held in all the eleven project districts with district executive directors and extension staff to sensitize the new ones about the project and to agree on roles of each partner (Africa RISING-NAFAKA, district-level extension staff and village agricultural extension staff) in project implementation. In all, meetings were held with 174 extension staff (137M, 37F) as indicated in table 3. All the meetings were successfully held with the district leadership and technical staff eager to participate in project activities and link these to the wider development initiatives in each district.

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| Photo 2.png |
| **Photo 2:** Meeting with District Extension staff to plan for project activities in Kongwa and Mbozi districts. Photo credit: Haroon Sseguya/IITA. |

**Table 3:** Meetings and dates with district extension staff to plan for project implementation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **District\*** | **Extension staff met** |
| 7 November 2016 | Babati | 18 (9M, 9F) |
| 11 November 2016 | Kongwa | 13 (11M, 2F) |
| 28 November 2016 | Kiteto | 13 (12M, 1 F) |
| 30 November 2016 | Mbozi | 18 (16M, 2 F) |
| 2 December 2016 | Kilolo and Iringa rural (maize activities) | 47 (38M, 9F) |
| 6 December 2016 | Kilombero and Ifakara | 30 (23M, 7 F) |
| 7 December 2016 | Iringa rural (rice and vegetable activities) | 10 (9M, 1 F) |
| 8 December 2016 | Mbarali | 12 (9M, 3F) |
| 13 December 2016 | Kilosa | 13 (10M, 3 F) |
| *Total* |  | 174 (137M, 37 F) |

\*Meetings for Mvomero will be conducted in January 2017.

After the planning meetings, training activities for the staff and lead farmers were conducted in some of the districts where the maize planting season was due. These were Babati (18 ES extension staff and 13 lead farmers); Mbozi (18 ES staff and 40 lead farmers); Kilolo (24 ES staff and 30 lead farmers), Kongwa (13 ES staff and 4 VBAAs) and Kiteto (14 ES staff and 1 VBAA). The training focused on good agronomic practices, establishment of demonstration sites following the protocols and data collection (monitoring data). In addition, to promote the availability of seeds, the quality declared seed (QDS) model is being promoted for legumes (Mbozi and Mvomero DIstricts) and rice (Mbarali, Iringa rural and Kilombero/Ifakara Districts). Training for QDS production was jointly implemented by Africa RISING (IITA for legumes and ARI Dakawa for rice), N2Africa (IITA), NAFAKA (Seed Specialist), TOSCI and district agricultural staff. Twenty farmers from each of the participating districts for each crop were selected for intensive training, and eventual certification for seed production. Training activities will continue in the next quarter.

For effective training, well-structured training materials should be in place. The project teams have developed training materials which are undergoing final review, branding, multiplication, and distribution. Some of the materials can be reached at this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/rannj2j6pxvc5lc/AAA6zFZCt9ebFHw-tH0ySoOUa?dl=0>

The Africa RISING communications team and the CMSD Behavioral Change and Communication (BCC) team are ably handling the process and materials will be in place by next quarter.

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| Photo 3.png |
| **Photo 3:** Village extension and lead farmers participating in training on soil and water management in Babati District. Photo credit: Fred Kizito/CIAT. |

## Training activities for farmers

Although the bulk of activities for the project focused on planning for the 2016/2017 planting season, some training activities for farmers were conducted by the maize team in Babati and the vegetables team in Kilombero and Iringa rural Districts. In preparation for the planting season, a session on soil and water conservation was conducted for 325 farmers in five villages in Babati District: Hallu, Orngadida, Seloto, Sabilo, and Ayamango.

For the vegetables, as a follow-on from the last quarter’s activities (season-long training program), training sessions on seed reproduction, post-harvest handling and post-harvest technologies were provided to 118 learners (44M, 74F) in five villages (Mahutanga, Lungongole, Kiberege, Mhelule, Magombera) in Kilombero District. The training also included a cooking show where all training participants had the opportunity to cook and taste the vegetables grown in the demonstration plot by using the recommended recipes developed by the project team.

At the beginning of the current quarter, six new pilot villages for village activities were selected in Kilombero District in close collaboration with CARITAS and the district agricultural office. These were Idete, Kiningi’ina, Lumemo, Mkula, Mwaya, and Mgudeni. A total of 501 farmers (182M, 319F) were trained on how to establish and manage nurseries. Seedlings grown in nurseries will serve as a source for the demonstration plots that were established in November 2016. The participants of the nursery management training will be further trained following a training-of-trainers (ToT) approach conducted on six demonstration plots (one in each village). The hands-on training on nursery practices covered topics on the preparation of land and seedbeds, how to manage media for raising seedlings, and establishment of the nurseries. While establishing the demonstration plots, the training focused on spacing, fertilizer application, and management of a vegetable garden (recommended weeding practices; proper watering and irrigation practices - including when and how to irrigate appropriately - and recommended organic fertilizer application procedures).

In Iringa rural District, as in Kilombero, the vegetables team selected nine new intervention villages in in collaboration with TAHEA and the district agriculture office. These were Mgera, Mlambalasi, Luganga, Mgama, Ndiwili, Nyabula, Nyamahana, Ugwachanya, and Tungamalenga. Unfortunately, TAHEA up to now has not been able to contribute the activities on which they had agreed during our previous meetings. Therefore, all activities in the nine pilot villages in Iringa rural District are currently conducted with the village extension officers and no other NGO partner. In the above-mentioned villages, mobilization meetings and nursery management training sessions were conducted in October 2016 followed by demonstration plot establishment; GAP training was implemented in November 2016 following the process used in Kilombero District. In total, 384 farmers (204M, 180F) were trained.

## Establishment of demonstration sites

Establishment of demonstration sites and planting in general by farmers has been greatly affected by the harsh weather (prolonged drought) currently experienced in Tanzania. With the exception of the vegetables team which established all the demos without weather effects, the only other location where demos have been established according to plan is Mbozi District (Songwe Region) and five villages (out of 13) in Babati DIstrict (Manyara Region). For other project locations, the plan is to plant in the next quarter when rain is expected to be adequate. The project team does not have a mitigation plan in case of rain failure but we are confident that the varieties promoted are able to thrive in conditions of minimal moisture availability.

## Launching of the Mwanga platform as an ICT vehicle for scaling in Babati District

 **“Mwanga” means** “enlighten or light” in Kiswahili. Farmers, the research team, and extension staff chose this name to denote that farmers needed information to provide guidance in some of the decisions related to the technologies that the project is promoting.

The Mwanga platform was launched on 20 December 2016. The current membership is 2050 individuals within 13 communities in Babati District (Fig. 2) to provide farmers with climate services, agronomic guidance, and market information as well as information on when project activities such as meetings would take place. The platform runs from a dedicated android application provided by ECHO MOBILE with an Airtel SSD private short code. We intend to use this platform as a trigger for information flow to numerous other farmers that we are not able to reach but where other farmers spread this information by word of mouth.

**Figure 2: Conceptual illustration of cross-community interaction on the Mwanga platform for all the 13 scaling villages.**

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|  |
| **Figure 3:** The Mwanga platform connecting farmers to vital information to improve farm decision-making. |

## Problems and challenges

1. Delayed onset of rains in most locations in Tanzania is the leading challenge during this quarter. In some districts such as Kongwa and Kiteto planting has been regularly conducted in December of each year. However, there are no rains in sight as we conclude the year and it is not yet clear whether adequate amounts next quarter will compensate for rainfall delays.
2. For vegetables, the project team planned to work in Iringa rural District with TAHEA that had received donor funding for conducting nutrition training in villages in Iringa rural District. During several meetings with TAHEA, we agreed on the pilot villages and the allocation of tasks among partners. Although the vegetables project team was foreseen to conduct the training, TAHEA supposed to organize the training since they have trained lead farmers in all those villages. TAHEA staff neither appeared during the training nor did they organize or contact their trained lead farmers in the pilot villages. As a result, the vegetables project team needed to organize the training on an ad-hoc basis. The training activities were nevertheless well-received and the participation of farmers in the training activities was high.

## Planned activities

The key planned activities include the following:

1. Establishment of demonstration and learning sites.
2. Training of farmers, QDS producers, and extension staff.
3. Monitoring visits to project sites and data collection.

# INTEGRATION OF CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES and USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES

## Gender equality and women’s empowerment

The project team experienced a more or less equal participation of male and female farmers in all training activities conducted in Iringa rural District. In general, when selecting lead farmers, VBAAs, and demonstration site hosts, emphasis is placed on ensuring a balance across the youth and male and female farmers. During training, emphasis is also placed on having equal participation of the youth and male and female farmers in the sessions via encouragement of everyone to take part as well as scheduling times when all interested community members can take part. We have also noted some unique community arrangements which encourage female participation, which we will further harness. For instance, for vegetables activities, female participation in Kilombero District is 75%, on average. The high participation level of female farmers is largely attributable to CARITAS-supported Saving and Internal Lending Community (SILC) groups; these facilitate economic activities of female and male farmers but females have found them more welcoming.

## 3.2 Youth Engagement

The project has taken initiatives to support youth engagement. In the 2015/2016 project year, we piloted the approach of identifying young people in Msufini village, Mvomero District (2M, 2F) who received training on pest and disease management at Ilonga Agricultural Training Institute, Kilosa District. These young people are actively engaged in providing services in the neighboring villages (figures on the number of beneficiaries will be availed in subsequent quarters). The rice team has made a deliberate focus on encouraging the youth to involve themselves in production. In 2015/2016, some youth groups (e.g., Kisegese village and Kilombero village), were rewarded with improved rice seeds (100 kg) from the project. The district local government, impressed with the achievements of the youth, also rewarded them with 50 kg of fertilizer. We plan to engage more of the youth in activities that can provide access to services for the general community through capacity building on pest and disease management, processing (shelling, handling mechanical faults of farm machinery, etc.,) and marketing. For vegetable activities, although there is no deliberate focus on the youth, we noticed that in the majority of the pilot villages, young farmers under 25 years of age have adopted vegetable varieties (e.g., tomato, African eggplant, African nightshade) that can fetch higher prices than other vegetable crops such as amaranth and jute mallow. The youth seem to understand vegetable production more as a business, whereas other farm households also focus on the nutritional aspect of the vegetable crops grown in their home gardens.

## Local capacity development

The project has a strong focus on working with agricultural extension staff at district and village levels. In addition, we work with VBAAs, who not only serve as a complement to extension staff but also play a key role as frontline actors in the rural agro-input dealer network. In addition, the project works with farmers’ groups and associations whose capacities are developed in good agronomic practices and related technical areas.

## Integration and collaboration

By design, this project is a partnership with the CMSD/NAFAKA project. Thus, we implement project activities with the NAFAKA project in nine out of the eleven districts. In addition, we have sought other collaborations such as with CARITAS in Iringa Region on vegetables with much success. The project team has also started a collaboration with Africare in Kilolo District in Iringa Region, focusing on vegetables. The collaboration with Africare in Iringa Region and with CRS in Mbeya Region foresees a joint organization of training. The NGOs and the local public extension officers will organize the training that will be conducted by the vegetables project team. Both NGOs will also invite progressive farmers who were trained by Africare and CRS and who live close to the pilot villages. Those progressive farmers will be invited to establish demonstration plots in their villages as well, based on the knowledge and skills received from the training. The project team will control the performance of these ‘baby’ demo plots and will report on the results.

## Sustainability

The close collaboration with the local extension service and local NGOs such as Caritas and other NGOs such as Africare and CRS aims at linking the farmers to partners and development initiatives that will provide support beyond the life of the project. In collaboration with the CMSD/NAFAKA project the team works with VBAAs and selected lead farmers who will produce QDS for legumes and rice to sustain the availability of varieties being taken to scale. Furthermore the project team plans to link local input and other service providers with farmers and local extension staff to ensure continued accessibility of the technologies after the project ends.

## Environmental compliance

As per the project PERSUAP and other guidelines, the team emphasizes the judicious use of agro-inputs (integrated soil fertility management) without damaging the natural resource base. In semi-arid locations, we encourage farmers to use improved in-site water conservation technologies such as tie-ridges. Management technologies for soils on steep slopes or those affected by high salinity and calcium content underlie the approach used in this project. Given increasing water for production problems, we emphasize the importance of using organic manure and minimizing the use of water in rice production by promoting the use of the water-saving technology (AWD) and establishing bunds around paddy plots in rice, among others

## Global climate change

The effect of global climate change as exhibited by the delayed onset of rain will affect the progress of project activities in most districts.

## Policy and governance support

The project activities are in line with the Government policy of fostering agricultural development. Consequently, the team has got tremendous support from district and village local governments in all areas where the project activities are implemented.

## Private Sector engagement, Public Private Partnerships (PPP), and Global Development Alliance (GDA) collaboration

The project works directly with two agro-input seed companies registered in Tanzania – Meru Agro Company and consultancy, and Aminata Agro Company. Their staff have been instrumental in providing guidance on seed-related matters as well as participating in the rural agro-input network spearheaded by the CMSD/NAFAKA project.

In addition, for vegetables, small-scale screen houses will be tested by farmer groups in five villages in Babati district in collaboration with “A to Z Textiles”, a private sector partner based in Arusha, to gauge their acceptability in the communities. In November 2016, 96 farmers participated in the briefing in all five villages and received information on the screen house prototype. Forty two (44%) of the participants were female farmers and 54 (56%) male. The local extension service also showed high interest in the activities. Ten public extension officers from Babati District level and from the pilot villages participated in the meetings as well. The construction of the screen houses will be finished around the end of December 2016 and the first trials will start in January 2017. Farmers selected two types of vegetable crops for the first season; tomato and sweet pepper.

Working with the SOYA NI PESA project implemented by a local NGO in Mvomero district, WOPATA (Women and Poverty Alleviation in Tanzania), the project is working with about 200 farmers in nine villages (Mkuyu, Lukenge, Kwadoli, Masimba, Pemba, Kunke, Kidudwe, Kanga and Dihinda)

to provide an opportunity for accessing a good market for soybean.

## Science, technology, and innovation

The rice team has been working with a local fabricator in Kilombero District to develop direct rice seeders and safe herbicide applicators. These are now available for taking to scale and will be disseminated through to the different locations using different avenues (e.g., youth programs, CMSD/NAFAKA grants scheme, etc.).

# STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

*See sections 3.3 and 3.4.*

# MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

The project will promote aflatoxin management activities in maize and legumes. To this end, two team members from IITA with expertise in aflatoxin management have joined the project and the activities of this component will be reported next quarter after most of the demonstration sites have been established. The vegetables team have also recruited two members of staff (a consultant and a field officer) to enable them reach the project targets. Staffing for other components (maize/legumes, rice and post-harvest) remains unchanged as of now since we will make use of the available human resource at the districts.

# Monitoring, evaluation, and LEARNing

The PMP indicators are presented in Annex 1. The project team plans to share learning questions and experiences with partners (especially NAFAKA) in the course of next quarter and these will be reported in the next quarter’s report.

# SPECIAL events FOR NEXT QUARTER

1. Three project team members will participate in training on ‘environmental compliance and environmentally sound design and management in project implementation.’ The training is organized by USAID and will take place in February 2017 in Morogoro.
2. The Sixth M&E Meeting of Economic Growth-based projects will take place in Zanzibar (27Feb–2 March 2017), with project staff responsible for M&E and communication expected to attend.
3. The vegetables team will conduct an impact survey in the original project pilot villages in Babati, Kiteto, and Kongwa Districts. The survey should reveal possible changes in vegetable production and vegetable consumption induced by the training activities conducted in 2015 and in the first half of 2016.

# ANNEXES

## Annex 1: Performance against PMP indicators for project year III (2016/17).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator / Disaggregation | Target 2017 | Qr1 (Oct-Dec 2016) | | | Qr2 (Jan- Mar 2017) | Qr3 (Apr – Jun 2017) | Qr4 (Jul – Sept 2017) |
|  | | With NAFAKA | Africa RISING only | Total |  |  |  |
| EG.3-1: (4.5.2-13) Number of households benefiting directly from USG interventions (RAA) | 47,000 | 5,383 | 3,872 | 9,255 |  |  |  |
| New/Continuing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New | 39,392 | 651 | 996 | 1,647 |  |  |  |
| Continuing | 7,608 | 4,732 | 2,876 | 7,608 |  |  |  |
| Location |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural | 47,000 | 5,383 | 3,872 | 9,255 |  |  |  |
| Urban/Peri-urban |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| EG.3.2-1: (4.5.2-7) Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) (WOG) | 47,200 | 1,152 | 1,374 | 2,526 |  |  |  |
| **Type of Individual** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Producers | 47,000 | 1,024 | 1,341 | 2,365 |  |  |  |
| Male | 23,500 | 509 | 667 | 1,176 |  |  |  |
| Female | 23,500 | 515 | 674 | 1,189 |  |  |  |
| People in Government | 160 | 122 | 33 | 155 |  |  |  |
| Male | 90 | 98 | 24 | 122 |  |  |  |
| Female | 70 | 24 | 9 | 33 |  |  |  |
| People in private sector firms | 40 | 6 | - | 6 |  |  |  |
| Male | 20 | 5 |  | 5 |  |  |  |
| Female | 20 | 1 |  | 1 |  |  |  |
| People in civil society |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| EG.3.2-4: (4.5.2-11) Number of for-profit private enterprises, producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG food security related organizational development assistance (RAA) (WOG) | 200 | 161 | 18 | 179 |  |  |  |
| Type of organization |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| For-profit private enterprises | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 |  |  |  |
| Producers organizations | 197 | 143 | 11 | 154 |  |  |  |
| Water users associations |  | 16 | - | 16 |  |  |  |
| Women's groups |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trade and business associations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Community-based organizations (CBOs) |  |  | 6 | 6 |  |  |  |
| \*EG.3.2-17: (4.5.2-5) Number of farmers and others who have applied improved technologies or management practices with USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) | 47,000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \*EG.3.2-18: (4.5.2-2) Number of hectares of land under improved technologies or management practices with USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) | 58,000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\*These indicators are measured annually. Therefore data for 2016/2017 will be available in the last quarter of the project year.

## Annex 1I: Success Story

* I never thought that maize production at this scale was possible on our degraded land

NAFAKA

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Quarterly Performance Report (October 1, 2015

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December 31, 2015)

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